A

VINDICATION

Of the Lord Biſhop

OF

SARUM,

FROM

One of the Imputations of the Author of the *Diſcourſes, &c.*

AS ALSO

Mr. *Lambert*'s Vindication of himſelf, from his Lordſhip's Reflections.

In a Letter to his Lordſhip.

By *Thomas Lambert*, Rector of *Boyton* and *Sherington*, in the Dioceſs of *Sarum*.

LONDON,
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My Lord,

WHen Power is abuſed to Oppreſs, and Greatneſs to Inſult, Human Nature cannot be ſo paſſive, or ſo Submiſſive, as not to be provoked. That your Lordſhip (to whoſe Authority and Character I will always pay all Awe and Reverence) hath treated me moſt opprobiouſly in Private, expoſed me in your Viſitation, and publiſhed me to the World as Contemptible as you can, is notorious; But I am not ſo inſenſible, as not to know my ſelf injured, nor ſo abject, as not to Vindicate my ſelf.

I therefore preſent your Lordſhip, and the World, with an ample Narrative of my whole Caſe, and the Series of it, and offer it to your Lordſhip's more Conſiderate and Cooler Reflections, and judgments of Impartial Readers.

I gratefully acknowledge, as your Lordſhip hath publiſhed, that I had your Directions in my Studies; and your Permiſſion to wait on you before the *Michaelmas* Ordination, and can prove that during that Courſe, your Lordſhip ſaid, That I made an unexpected progreſs; after which I thought I might without preſumption offer my ſelf to Examination, and your Lordſhip may remember you endeavoured to divert and deterr me from it, by Superciliouſly telling me I ſhould undergo a publick Examination, to which I ſubmitted, and was examined by your Lordſhip, and others, then preſent, during a conſiderable time, till Dr. *Whitby* coming into the Chapter-houſe, he alſo examined me in ſeveral Queſtions; After which your Lordſhip demanded my Teſtimonials, which peruſing, you redelivered to me, and told me, I ſhou'd bring them at the Ordination, and go and deſire Dr. *Whitby* to preſent me. In this Examination your Lordſhip did confeſs to my Brother, and Kinſman, that I anſwerd two parts in three of the Queſtions propoſed by yourſelf, and others, till Dr. *Whitby* undertook me, whom your Lordſhip hath ſaid I did not anſwer ſo readily, and I confeſs it; But your Lordſhip may

remember, that the Points propoſed by him were more Speculative and Notional. But to purſue matter of Fact, according to your Order I waited on Dr. *Whitby*, and addreſt my ſelf to him, deſiring him to preſent me: But without any other Objection, he told me, he wou'd not have any thing to do with one, who had kept Company with my Lord *Lovelace*, and moreover, that he wou'd neither be your Lordſhip's nor the Arch *Deacon*'s Slave; This, my Lord, I have before affirmed to you, and you know it hath likewiſe been atteſted.

Being ſo rejected, I went to my Uncle *Lambert*, your then Arch-Deacon, and offered my ſelf to his Examination, and deſired him to preſent me; which he promiſed to do, and appointed me to wait on him before the Ordination, which I accordingly did, but was Surprized, when he told me, that he telling your Lordſhip, that he wou'd attend you at the laying on of hands (at which he did Officate) and preſent his Kinſman, you replyed, You wou'd not Ordain me, which prepared me to receive the Refuſal, you afterwards moſt diſdainfully gave me, telling me, That if you had no other reaſon to reject me, my own forwardneſs, and the earneſt deſire of my Friends for my Ordination, were ſufficient Grounds for it; although you ſaid, in the preſence of Dr. *Lambert*, and other yet living Witneſſes, that you had paſſed many not ſo fit, and that you were ſatisfied with me yourſelf, but your Brother *Whitby* was not; This my Lord, I am ſorry I muſt mention, in Derogation to your Lordſhip, that the Conſcience of a Man, who is known not to be ſo conſiſtent with himſelf, nor ſo *Orthodox* in his Divinity, (what ſoever his Talent may be in meaſuring the Capacities of others) ſhou'd be a Rule to you.

Your Lordſhip may remember, that a worthy Perſon afterwards Expoſtulated with your Lordſhip concerning me, gave occaſion to what your Lordſhip ſaid to my Younger Brother, when he waited on you with his Preſentation to *Orcheſton*, That you were told it was my intention to have come to you again. But if I had, you wou'd have called all the Clergy in the Town about me; This, my Lord, importing ſuch a *Menace*, and your Arguments againſt me appearing to be drawn from prejudice, gave me juſt Cauſe to ſuſpect your Intentions towards me, and made

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me ~~resolv'd~~ resolve to seek my Ordination else where; for which I thought I had scope enough, being a Graduate in the University; and although I was then abiding within your Diocess, I conceived I was not so strictly of it, as to be altogether Independant on you: Hereupon I was advised and prepared to proceed in the Method I did, even before the Vacancy of the See of *Canterbury*. And here, my Lord, I shall acknowledge the Truth of what you have related concerning the Title, on which my Petition to the Dean and Chapter of *Canterbury* was founded, the irregularity of which (altho' derived from common practice) I confessed to your Lordship, and the present Arch Bishop; But, my Lord, I made no use of it at my Ordination (as you wou'd insinuate) but only to support the form of obtaining my Faculty. When my orders were obtain'd, altho' not so surreptitiously as you suppose, for I passed a publick Examination at *Pauls*, as strict, altho' more candid than your Lordship's, and the knowleged of it coming to you, I must here represent, what I think to be the cause of your ill usage of me afterwards.

If your Lordship recollects, you may remember you told my younger Brother, that for thus slighting you, who was my Diocesan, and for going to another Bishop, you wou'd make me repent it, and that dearly too, and that you wou'd use me with all severity to the utmost of your power, and that I should find you were mettal to the last, and withal, that he should tell me of it, which in obedience to your Lordship he did; And I confess I have felt the Steel of your Lordship's Indignation, and the redoubled Strokes of your Severity. What the Author of the *Discourses* hath published, concetning your venting yourself Passionately in a Storm of many severe Words against me, as related *Verbatim* by him, is truth; But the Imprecation therein mentioned I never construed to be intended, otherwise than if I ever got a Legal settlement into my first Church, your Lordship would debar yourself of the Power, as well as will of assisting me in the obtaining my Plurality: And I confess, that what you say in your *Vindication*. (That you gave me no Assistance, in obtaining my second Living) is indeed so punctually true, that I need not produce Testimony of the unreasonable and resolute Opposition you gave me in so legal an Acqui-

 sition,

ſition, in contradiction to your own Judicial Act in my former Inſtitution, and with an Importunity that might have perverted Juſtice, had it not been inflexible.

Here, my Lord, I muſt ſolemnly diſavow what you charge me with, of ſending in my Paper to the *Jacobite's* Office of Intelligence, but will truly tell your Lordſhip, the true cauſe of my Papers (as you call it) being made publick; aroſe from notice that was given at *Boyton* of the Induſtry of Mr. *Toſts*, and your Regiſter Mr. *Thiſtlethwayte* (thoſe Emmiſſaries of your wrath) in publiſhing a falſe Relation of your Lordſhip's Conduct towards me, which provoked my Relations there to make publick the Account I had tranſmitted to them of your Lordſhips harſh diſcourſe to me, whereby your Intentions and Actions towards me might be better Judged of. I think it, my Lord, a great Diſadvantage to my Cauſe, to have it ſo imperfectly related; Nor have the great and many hardſhips you have put upon me, ſo exaſperated me, as that I ſhould make my ſelf of a party of Men of ſo ill a temper, as the Author of the *Diſcourſes*, or Adminiſter Fuel to the fiery malice of your Lordſhip's unprovoked Adverſary. Your Lordſhip gave me the firſt knowledge I had of being mentioned in the *Preface* to the *Diſcourſes*, which filled me with a Curioſity and deſire of ſeeing it, which I have without any Satisfaction, being ſorry to find my Caſe miſapplied; Although I have reaſon to think ſomething elſe than what you alledg in your Vindication, to be the cauſe of your giving me your *Fiat* only, and not *Actual Inſtitution*, becauſe in a few days after you ſent me for my Inſtitution to *Sarum*, I am certainly informed you gave one Monſieur *Cartiere*, Inſtitution to a Living in *Barkſhire*: But of this, my Lord, I do not complain.

But had your ſtrenuous Endeavours ſucceeded, to have excluded me from the Legal Poſſeſſion of what I was Legally Entituled to, and what, as your Lordſhip confeſſes, I was Legally Quallified for, I muſt loudly have complained of it, as an Act of Injuſtice and Violence. But, my Lord, having through many Difficulties and great Expence attained my Right, I made it my Endeavour, to compoſe my ſelf into a Chriſtian forgivneſs of all the wrong I had ſuffered, till that new Eruption

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of your ſuppreſſed Reſentment, broke out on me at your Viſitation; and I then ſeeing the ſmall Interruption I gave, and the ſhort Reply I made, raiſed a greater ferment, I deſiſted from making any further Juſtification of my ſelf at that time, which I now do in a leſs offenſive manner, and even in reſpect to your Lordſhip, with much reſerve, but with all ſincerity of truth, which I can ſupport with ſufficient Teſtimony; And from my Caſe thus truly Stated I hope your Lordſhip will in a better temper acknowledg I ſuffered more from your Reſentment than for my demerrit, in which your Lordſhip will have a greater *Triumph* over yourſelf, than I ſhall.

I cannot be ſo vain as to imagin, I may by any demeanour eſtabliſh my ſelf in your Lordſhip's favour, and your Lordſhip having told me you cou'd forgive the greateſt Enemy you have, but you ſhou'd never have any good opinion of me, I am not Conſcious I remain under any other obligation to your Lordſhip but only of Obedience, as to my Reverend *Dioceſan*, *Cannonically* to be

My Lord, Yours in

all Dutifull Obſervance

THOMAS LAMBERT.